

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed May 2, 2005, Applicant amends claims 1, 16, and 23 and cancels claims 2, 3, 20, and 28. Claims 1, 4-19, 21-27, and 29 are presented for examination. Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim rejections under §101

In response to the examiner's rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 USC §101, Applicant amends claim 1 as suggested by the examiner. Therefore, Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges the allowability of claim 3. In response, Applicant amends claim 1 to include the limitations of claims 2 and 3 and cancels claims 2 and 3.

Applicant acknowledges the allowability of claim 20. In response, Applicant amends claim 16 to include the limitations of claim 20 and cancels claim 20.

Applicant acknowledges the allowability of claim 28. In response, Applicant amends claim 23 to include the limitations of claim 28 and cancels claim 28.

Applicant amends claim 9 in a similar manner to claims 16 and 23. Therefore, Applicant requests that the rejection of claim 9 be withdrawn.

Claims 4-8, 10-15, 17-19, 21-22, 24-27, and 29 each depend from one of claims 3, 9, 15, and 23 and are allowable for at least the reasons as the claims on which they depend.

Summary

It is believed that all of the rejections have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims)

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that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 21, 2005



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